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Final Gravina study delayed

by KDN Staff

The state is still working on a final environmental impact statement for the Gravina Access Project. The final study originally was due out in December, with a record of decision scheduled for release this month. Alaska Department of Transportation project manager Jim Evensen said Tuesday that the documents should be finished soon. "We're just about there," he said. "It really could be most any time."

The project team has been working through responses to comments from the public and various permitting agencies, Evensen said. Most of the input was positive, he said.

The draft document studied six bridge and three ferry alternatives in detail. It recommended two high bridges connecting Revillagigedo, Pennock and Gravina islands.

Mark Dalton, project manager with state consultant HDR, said the final document needs to be reviewed by the Federal Highway Administration. "My hope is it will be on the street in late February or early March," he said.

For more information, see Joanna Markell's article in the Jan. 29, 2004, edition of the Ketchikan Daily News.